

### **AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION**

Please amend the first paragraph of the specification on page one as follows:

### **CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATION**

This application is a continuation-in-part of application U.S. ~~Application Serial No. Ser. No.~~ 08/692,922 filed ~~Jul.~~ July 31, 1996, now U.S. Patent No. 6,277,592.

Next, please amend the Abstract of the invention as follows:

### **ABSTRACT**

The present invention includes an isolated single or double-stranded DNA molecule which encodes a porcine adipocyte polypeptide leptin or an allelic variant of a single or double-stranded DNA molecule which encodes for a porcine adipocyte polypeptide leptin. The present invention further includes an isolated mRNA molecule or an allelic variant of an mRNA molecule for encoding a porcine adipocyte polypeptide leptin. A porcine adipocyte-specific polypeptide, termed leptin, is expressed in the fat tissue of pigs. Expression may be altered in over fat pigs, or expression may be in the form of a protein of lesser biological activity relative to that of leaner pigs. The porcine adipocyte polypeptide, DNA and RNA molecules coding therefor, methods for its preparation, and antibodies specific for the polypeptide are disclosed. Methods for determining the susceptibility of a pig to fat deposition are based on measuring the levels of the porcine adipocyte polypeptide in a biological fluid or tissue extract or by measuring mRNA encoding the porcine adipocyte polypeptide in cells of the subject. Methods of evaluating an agent related to the deposition of fat in swine comprise contacting the agent with an adipocyte in vitro and measuring the amount of the porcine adipocyte polypeptide or mRNA that is produced by the adipocyte. Methods of limiting fat deposition include administering porcine leptin or porcine leptin DNA, and methods of regulating intake include administering porcine leptin, porcine leptin DNA, or an antibody directed against porcine leptin.